

To address the above-noted problems, Applicant has invented a method for manufacturing a golf club having certain features and advantages. The method utilizes a mold 98, which is shown in Figure 8. The mold includes a core or mandrel 100, which is shown in detail in Figure 9A-E. The core preferably is made of a hard material, such as, for example, aluminum or steel. Preferably, the core 100 comprises a first piece 102a and a second piece 102b. However, it should be appreciated that the core 100 can comprise a single piece or more than two pieces. The two piece construction is preferred for reasons that will be set forth below. The core 100 defines an exterior surface 104, which corresponds generally to the desired shape of the interior surface 21 of the outer shell 20. In particular, the exterior surface 104 includes a ridge 106 that forms an analog to the interlocking step surface 38a of the club head 10 (see Figure 4). Of course, if the joint 36 has a different configuration the exterior surface 104 can be modified accordingly.

The mold 98 also comprises a first mold piece 112, which is shown in Figures 8 and 10-11B. The first mold piece 112 includes an inner surface 114, which generally corresponds to the desired shape of a portion of the outer shell's 20 exterior surface 23. More specifically, in the illustrated arrangement, the inner surface 114 of the mold corresponds to a lower portion (i.e., the portion of outer shell 20 that lies generally below the crown 30) of shell's 20 exterior surface 23. The illustrated first mold piece 112 also includes a spacing groove 116. The groove 116 is configured to receive a tongue piece 118 that is formed on the core 100 (see Figures 9A, 9B, and 10). The tongue 118 and groove 116 cooperate to properly align the core 100 within the cavity 110. While the tongue 118 and groove 116 are preferred for the simplicity and reliability, those skilled in the art will recognize that there are other ways to ensure the proper alignment of the core 100 within the cavity 110.

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The mold 98 further includes a second mold piece 120, which is shown in ~~Figures 8 and 10.~~ ^{Figures 8, 10, 13 and 14.} The second mold piece 120 has a second inner surface 122, which preferably is configured to generally correspond to the desired shape of the crown 30. The top portion 120 is further configured such that it can be moved towards or away from the first mold piece 112. Accordingly, as shown in Figure 8, the top portion 112 is connected to the bottom portion 110 by a plurality of shafts 124, which are